

(USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY)

| FIELD ACTIVITY COVERSHEET | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|--|--|-----------|--|--|--|
| 1. REGION/STATE FOWR/Denver | 2. OPER () | ATION (Check One) Inspection () Es Telephone Contact (X) In | 3. DATE 7-27-95 | | | | |
| | () | Other | 4. NUMBER (For RO Use) 950712CCC3857 | | | | |
| 5. ESTABLISHMENT Name Blac | k & Deck | er | | | | | |
| Address City State Zip Telephone | | | | | | | |
| 6. RELATED FIRM Name | () | Parent () Headquarters City | () Subsidiary State | () Other | | | |
| 7. PRODUCTS COVERED Toaster Oven | | | 8. OTHER CONSUMER PRODUCTS | | | | |
| 9. ESTABLISHMENT TYPE () Manufacturer () Importer () Wholesaler () Own Label Distributor () Retailer () Repackager () Other | | | 10. ANNUAL PRODUCTION Product Covered \$ Units Other Products \$ Units | | | | |
| 11. I.S. BUSINESS | | 13. MIS CODE 32626 | 14. HOURS Activity 8 | | | | |
| CPSC Hotline Complaint 16. ANNOUNCED () Rationale for Announced Inspection UNANNOUNCED () | | | | | | | |
| 17. EMPLOYEE'S NA. Teresa Bloxham, | _ | <i>TITLE</i> Investigator | SIGNATURE | S | | | |
| 18. (X) ENDORSEMENT () REMARKS () SUMMARY () OTHER | | | | | | | |
| IDI conducted in response to a consumer complaint associated with an electric toaste oven. The product malfunctioned while being used to make toast. The toaster lever was struck in the down position. No flames were observed. Damage was confined to the toaster oven. No injury occurred. Examination of the product by the homeowner revealed overheated solenoid. We were unable to examine the product. No further follow up. | | | | | | | |
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| 19. REVIEWER'S NA James P. DiGrazi | | TITLE Supervisory Investigator | SIGNATURE 1 | 1 Jugier | | | |
| 26. REVIEW DATE 7/31/95 | 21. DIS | TRIBUTION S cc: NYRO, CCA, SFRO | cc c/s: LGC, | LDB | | | |

This investigation was done as follow-up to a CPSC Hotline report of a toaster oven failure. The oven did catch on fire, but damage was contained to the oven. There were no injuries. The oven was thrown away after the incident by the owners. The product was not examined, but the owner did send the instruction manual for the oven to CPSC for inclusion with this report.

Pre-Incident

This incident took place in a single family home in Highlands Ranch, Colorado. The home was occupied by a man and his wife, both retired. The couple purchased the house, new, in the early 1980s. The man said they have never had electrical problems with the house wiring, other appliances, or the toaster oven prior to this incident. He did say they did not have GFCI outlets in the kitchen, but there were 3-prong outlets in the home.

The man said they bought the toaster oven in 1990 or 1991, possibly at the Best catalog showroom store. He and his wife were not sure exactly where they purchased the product.

He said they used the toaster oven daily for making toast at breakfast. Sometimes they used it once to fix toast, and then shared the toast. Other times they would fix breakfasts separately and each would make their own toast. Some mornings they would use the oven to toast pastry items. The man said that on some larger breads (english muffins, rolls, etc.) they would have to use 2 toasting cycles to achieve their desired the said they never held the lever down to extend the toasting time, They only used the cycles in the oven.

The man said they would occasionally use the oven for reheating left overs that they wanted crispier than the microwave would make them, or for making toasted cheese sandwiches. He said they did not use the toaster oven for broiling or truly baking food.

The man said that they used to leave the oven plugged in even when they were not using it. In 1993, a home in their neighborhood burned down after a toaster oven was believed to have started the fire. After that incident, the couple started unplugging the oven unless they were cooking with it.

95071**2**CCC3857 Toaster Oven Fire Highlands Ranch, CO

The man said that they used their toaster oven in the kitchen, on a countertop. He said the dining room was located next to the kitchen, with a doorway between the two rooms. The dining table was placed near the door, and the wife could observe the area of the kitchen where the toaster oven was located. The man said he could not see the kitchen from his seat at the dining table.

On the morning of the incident, the couple was eating breakfast together. They had placed 2 slices of bread in the toaster oven and started a toast cycle.

Incident

The wife said that she was watching the toaster oven to see when the toast was done. At about the same time the cycle should have stopped, she heard the toaster oven "click." The click was immediately followed by acrid black smoke coming out of the oven. The man described the smoke as smelling like "electrical" and burning plastic. He went to the kitchen, flipped the toast lever up, unplugged the appliance, and took it outside. He said the oven did not make flames or sparks.

The couple did not call the fire department.

Post Incident

After the oven cooled, the man examined it. He said the bread slices were not burned, they were slightly underdone for what the toast cycle should have toasted them to. He said the inside of the oven did not appear to be damaged, the burners were intact, and there was no discoloration.

The man said the outside of the oven also appeared to be undamaged. The white paint on the metal parts of the oven was not burned or discolored. The control panel was not damaged.

The man said that the toast lever spring did not appear to be broken, he said it would still "pop up" if he pressed it down.

The man took the oven apart to examine the inside controls. He said he saw what he believed to be an electric solenoid coil for controlling the toast

mechanism. He said the **C**oil appeared as if it had been very hot and burned the covering material on the coil wires. He did not know what the covering was made of.

The man called the CPSC hotline to report the incident. He said the hotline advised him to contact the maker of the appliance before making a hotline report. He was given a customer service number for the firm. He called the company to report the incident. A woman named "Cindy" took his call, but advised that she could order parts for him to fix the oven, but that she could not provide further assistance since the oven was out of warranty.

The man called the Hotline after speaking with the firm, and made the complaint generating this assignment. He said that he still had the oven at the time of the complaint, but that since nobody told him to save it, nor was he advised that there may be a delay in following up his complaint with sample collection, he threw the oven out with the other trash. He did save the instruction book, and provided it to CPSC for this report.

The man said that they replaced the toaster oven with another model from the same firm. The replacement was purchased at a "Best" department store.

Product Information

The toaster oven was a Black & Decker Toast-R-Oven/Broiler, model TRO400. The man said the manufacturer's plate showed the serial number TRO400TY1. The oven had a white metal body with white sides. There was galvanized metal on both the bottom and back of the oven. There was a clear glass oven door on the front of the oven. He said there was a light on the front of the oven for when the oven was turned on (either toast or bake). He said it was possible to depress the toast lever when the oven was unplugged and the lever would stay down. There were separate controls for toasting or baking/broiling.

The direction book is for models TRO51, 400-600. The drawing on the front of the book shows an oven with a dial baking control, toast lever, and dial for toast color. These dials are lined up vertically on the control panel in that order.

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The copyright date (located on p.3) for the manual is 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993. The man said he purchased this oven in 1990 or 1991. He also said that the purchased a replacement oven in 1995 (after the incident). He did not have purchase records for the incident oven, so it is not known if his memory of the purchase date of the oven is correct.

The Black & Decker person did ask him for a serial number from the ID plate on the oven. With her assistance, the only number he could find was the number TRO400TY1.

Standards Information

The hotline complaint indicates the oven had a UL listing 228E.

Attachments

Attachment 1 Hotline complaint and work assignment.

Attachment 2 Instruction Manual sent by the man for the oven.

Attachment 3 Name release form.

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ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REQUEST FORM

| Document Number H 50 | 103344 | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| | 95 Category I.D. <u>56</u> | 21 15/1995 |
| Pollow-Up Requested | Hazard Analysis | Section 15 |
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| Q. | l | • | JUN 2 9 1995 |
|--|--|---|--|
| W TC-21 CONSUMER PRODUCT | INCIDENT | REPORT | 11/529 |
| 1. NAME OF RESPONDENT Chris Millson | 2. PHONE 303-791- | • • | (WORK) none |
| 3. STREET ADDRESS 516 Fox Hunt Circle | 4. CITY Highland | s Ranch | STATE ZIP CODE CO 80126 |
| 5. DESCRIBE INCIDENT OR HAZARD, INCLUDING There were two slices of bread in toaster smelled a burning odor and saw smoke compound oven's pop-up lever stuck, unplugged lever. Later when oven had cooled, constant to controls oven's pop-up lever be explained incident to manufacturer's representation. | er oven for ing from ged oven a sumer inspondent for the following from the following fro | r 1 minute w front of ove nd manually ected oven a /28/95 Cons | n. Consumer pulled up nd found inner umer called and |
| 6. DATE 7.IF INJURY OR NEAR MISS OBTAI OF 0 Y/N . INCIDENTS AND DESCRIBE INJURY: 6/25/95 none | N AGE/SEX | 8. IF VICTIM DIFFERENT FROM RESPONDENT, PROVIDE NAME none RELATIONSHIP none | |
| 9. DESCRIPTION OF PRODUCT electric toaster oven | | 10. BRAND NAME Toast-R-Oven/Broiler | |
| 11. MFR/DISTRIBUTOR NAME, ADDR. & PHONE Black and Decker 6 Armstrong Road Shelton, CT 06484 1-800-231-9786 unknown unknown unknown unknown 14. WAS THE PRODUCT DAMAGED, REPAIRED OR MODIFIED? YES x NO IF YES, BEFORE | 13. DEALE Best Produnknown unknown unknown 15. PRODU | ER'S NAME, Alducts (consumers) | DDRESS & PHONE mer thinks) |
| OR AFTER THE INCIDENT? after DESCRIBE: damaged: see narrative | 16. DOES | | AGE 4 yrs. E WARNING LABELS? |
| 17. HAVE YOU CONTACTED THE ANUFACTURER? YES x NO IF NOT, DO YOU PLAN TO CONTACT THEM? YES NO OTHER? FOR ADMIN | ? YES x IS DISPOSI | TION | 19. MAY WE USE YOUR NAME WITH THIS REPORT? YES x NO |
| 20. DATE RECEIVED 21. RECEIVED BY Ctw/HL | | OFFICE) 22 | 2. DOCUMENT NO. 9560334A |
| 3. FOLLOW-UP ACTION 950 712 CC | C385 | 7 24 | PRODUCT CODE(S) |
| 5. DISTRIBUTION 26. | ENDORSE | R'S NAME & T | TITLE |
| PSC FORM 175 (9/89) | H 6/28/9 | | |

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CONSUMER PRODUCT INCIDENT REPORT

H9560334A

| arrative Continued | |
|--|---------------------|
| aid information would be forwarded to their technical isted #228E. | l staff. Oven is UL |
| stributor phone #: unknown | |

U. S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF NAME

Thank you for assisting us in collecting information on a potential product safety problem. The Consumer Product Safety Commission depends on concerned people to share product safety information with us. We maintain a record of this information, and use it to assist us in identifying and resolving product safety problems.

We routinely forward this information to manufacturers and private labelers to inform them of the involvement of their product in an accident situation. We also give the information to others requesting information about specific products. Manufacturers need the individual's name so that they can obtain additional information on the product or accident situation.

Would you please indicate on the bottom of this page whether you will allow us to disclose your name. If you request that your name remain confidential, we will of course, honor that request. After you have indicated your preference, please sign your name and date the document on the lines provided.

You are hereby authorized to disclose my name and address with the information collected on this case.

My identity is to remain confidential.

(Signature)

(Date)

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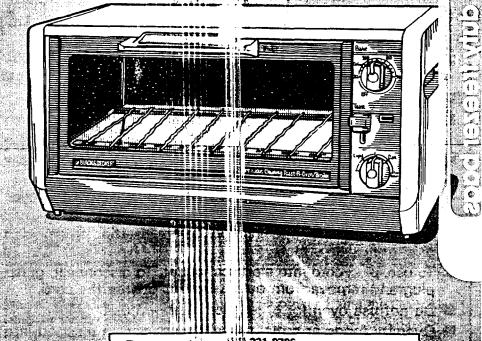
Attachment 2

1507120063857



SAVE THIS USE A NO CARE BOOK

Toast-R Oven Broilers



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QUESTIONS? Ple in call us TOLL FREE Monday : Friday 8 | Ila.m. - 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

MODELS TRO

, TRO400₅TRO600

BEDINAL CORRES MONDO